

Application No. 09/608,135 **DRAFT ONLY FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES NOT FOR SUBMISSION**
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DRAFT CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for collecting network usage data about users accessing a network and resources thereon without associating personally identifiable information with the usage data comprising:

obtaining an identifier at a network service provider representing one or more users of a computer network;

creating an anonymized identifier at the network service provider using the obtained identifier;

collecting data being transmitted across the computer network;

associating the anonymized identifier with the collected data if the collected data is sent to or from the one or more users to create a transaction record; and

storing the transaction record in a database separate from the network service provider.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the act of obtaining an identifier representing one or more users of a computer network includes:

receiving packets at the network service provider sent by an authentication server separate from the network service provider; and

extracting an identifier at the network service provider from the received packets.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for collecting computer network usage data about users accessing a network and resources thereon without associating personally identifiable information with the usage data comprising:

identifying a user of a computer network;

creating an anonymized identifier at a network service provider representing the identified user of the computer network and said anonymized identifier being identified with a classification in a database separate from the network service provider; and

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storing network transaction data associated with an anonymized identifier in accordance with said classification.

24. (Currently Amended) A method for associating anonymized identifiers, relating to users accessing a network and resources thereon, to with a classification, comprising:

obtaining an identifier, at a network service provider, representing one or more users of a computer network;

creating a first anonymized identifier using the obtained identifier;

creating a classification record by associating a classification with the first anonymized identifier; and

storing the classification record in a database separate from the network service provider.

26. (Currently Amended) A computer system for collecting network usage data about users accessing a network and resources thereon, without associating personally identifiable information with the usage data comprising:

a communication port coupled to a computer network, the computer network providing access to one or more servers;

one or more processors; and

a memory containing computer instructions that

identify a user of the computer network;

create an anonymized identifier representing the identified user of the computer network, on said anonymized identifier being identified with a classification at a network server provider; and

store network transaction data associated with an anonymized identifier in accordance with said classification in a database separate from the network service provider.